

Interactive Reading Assignment (IRA)

Research has repeatedly shown that students who read for pleasure tend to be better readers and writers. Reading a wide variety of writing styles exposes readers to a variety of different sentence patterns and vocabulary and therefore helps the reader develop his or her own written and oral language abilities. In addition, students who read frequently tend to be better students in general. Reading for pleasure can also be quite fun. Really!!!

You are expected to read nightly. Approximately every six weeks you will be turning in an IRA. You will choose two of the following activities to complete each IRA. Each IRA will be collected on the posted due date.

- IRA's are due approximately every six weeks, at the beginning of class, and are worth forty points each.
- You may select books that are appropriate for your reading level, meet with your parents' approval, and are a minimum of 150 pages in length.
- IRA's should be typed, neatly printed or handwritten according to the format described below.
- IRA's that require pictures must be colored or computer generated and printed in color.
- A parent signature is also required for each IRA, upon choosing a book. Points will be deducted for a missing parent signature.
- **Each IRA needs to include a heading:**
 - your first and last name, period and the date
 - the IRA # (IRA #1, #2, etc.-please refer to the calendar)
 - the title of the book that you are reading (please underline or italicize the title)
 - the name of the book's author
 - the genre of the book you are reading (science fiction, historical fiction, biography, fantasy, mystery, romance, etc.)
 - the total number of pages in the book (must be 150 pages minimum)

Points may be deducted from the overall score if the format is not followed

Students may also be asked to redo the IRA if the requirements of the assignment are not met.

**** Please refer to the sample packet provided to see detailed examples of each option.**

Option 1: Reading Log

1. **Passages from the book-** The log must include **five excerpts** (a quote or passage from the book).
 - a. Cite the page number where your passage is located.
 - b. Put quotation marks around your passage.
2. **Responses-** You must then respond to the passage in 1-2 sentences. The following is a list of possible responses:
 - a. a question about the passage
 - b. a thought you have about the passage
 - c. a prediction about the passage
 - d. a comment regarding how the passage relates to your life
3. **Summary-**The summary must be a minimum of **three paragraphs with 5-7 sentences in each**, written in correct paragraph format. The summary should include elements of both characterization and plot, but should include only the most important elements.

Option 2: One Pager – must be completed on a blank sheet of computer paper

1. **Choose the most important part or your favorite part of the book.**
2. **Passages from the book-** The log must include **three excerpts** (quotations or passages from the book) from this part of the story.
 - a. Cite the page number where the passages are located.
 - b. Put quotation marks around the passages.
3. **Graphic Representation-** Include a **full page, colored drawing** (magazine pictures or computer graphics are also acceptable) that best represents the part of the story you chose. You may include one or more illustrations, but they should be the focus of the page. Your illustrations must be **in color**.
4. **Personal Response-** The response must be a minimum of **two paragraphs (5-7 sentences each)**, written in correct paragraph format. The response can be a commentary, interpretation, or summary of this part of the story.

Option 3: Comic Strip & Journal Entry - must be completed on a blank piece of computer paper that is divided into six sections

1. **Square one-** Include your heading (title, author, genre, name, period, date, pages, and box # of chosen event)
2. Choose the five most important events that occur within the book. In each square you will include the following items:
 - a. **Image-** A colored image that depicts the event
 - b. **Narration-** A one sentence narration of the scene
 - c. **Quotation-** One quotation from the event
3. **Journal Entry** (on a piece of lined paper or typed)- Using one of the characters and events from your comic strip, write a journal entry describing the event from his/her point of view (pretend you are the character in the book).
4. **Format-**
 - a. Dear Journal,
 - b. Two paragraph entry (5-7 sentences)
 - c. Closing (i.e. sincerely, and character's signature)

First Semester Due Dates:

IRA #1 _____

IRA #2 _____

IRA #3 _____

Second Semester Due Dates:

IRA #1 _____

IRA #2 _____

IRA #3 _____

Reading Log # _____

Title: *The Diary of a Young Girl*
Genre: Autobiography

Author: Anne Frank
Number of pages: 335

Passage	Response
p. 176 "Never have they ever uttered a single word about the burden we must be, never have they complained that we're too much trouble."	Everyone who is helping the people in the Annex is so helpful! If I were one of their helpers, I'd probably have the feeling of wanting to quit helping them, but I wouldn't.
p. 187 "Let me be, leave me alone!"	Sometimes I just want to scream that out at people. If I wanted people near me, I would ask for their company.
p. 197 "How can thinking about the misery of others help if you're miserable yourself?"	I know that when I grumble and complain about my life, then think about people who are less fortunate, I'm mad at myself for not being grateful in the first place.
p. 257 "It's God who has made us the way we are, but it's also God who will lift us up again."	I truly believe this quote. It's good to know that Anne has such faith in time of war.
p. 258 "...I'll make my voice heard, I'll go out into the world and work for mankind!"	Anne has many dreams and aspirations, I sometimes ask myself, "Would she ever have achieved all the goals she set out to do?"
Summary:	

In the beginning, Anne is given a diary for her thirteenth birthday. It is her favorite present and she names it Kitty. Shortly after her birthday, Anne's sister Margot, received a letter demanding that she transport to a work camp. In order to avoid this, her family decides they must go into hiding. Although they had been planning to go into hiding for months, this forced them to go as soon as possible. The Franks hide in a secret room, above the factory her father worked at, in a secret attic room. During their stay, another family, the Van Daans, joined them. They planned to stay hidden there until the end of the war.

In the middle, Anne begins to feel a fellowship with Peter, the child from the other family. They are becoming extremely good friends, but Peter has a huge inferiority complex. Mr. Van Daan has a birthday on March 31st. He receives tobacco, coffee, lemon punch, sardines, cologne, lilacs, and a raspberry cake. Food is becoming scarce in the Annex. A break-in occurs, but everyone is safe for the time being.

In the end, the hidden families are discovered by the SS on August 4, 1944. They are then taken and held temporarily in Westerbork. They are then separated and transported to concentration camps. Anne and Margot remain together, but are eventually separated from their mother, who passes away once the girls leave. Anne and Margot contract Typhus and pass away within days of each other; Margot first, then Anne. Otto Frank, Anne's father, is the family's only survivor, who published her diary upon his return home.

The Giver

By: Lois Lowry

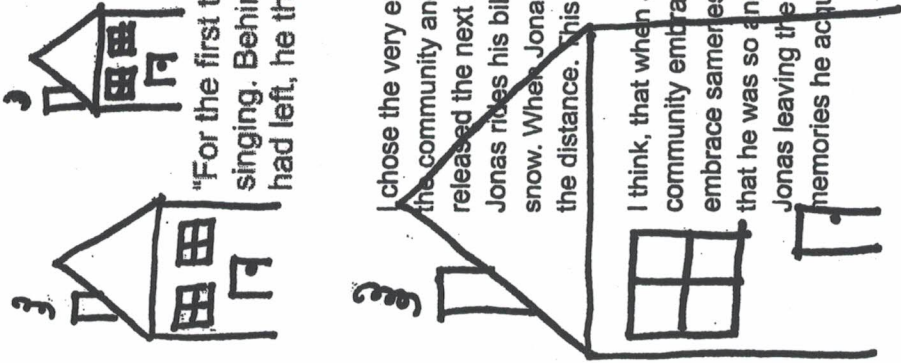
"Downward, downward, faster and faster. Suddenly he was aware with certainty and joy that below, ahead, they were waiting for him; and that they were waiting, too, for the baby." (p. 170)

"...they sped in a straight line through an incision that seemed to lead to the final destination, the place that he had always felt was waiting, the Elsewhere that held their future and their past." (p. 178)

"For the first time, he heard something that he knew to be music. He heard people singing. Behind him, across vast distances of space and time, from the place he had left, he thought he heard music too. But perhaps it was only an echo." (p. 179)

I chose the very end of the book as my favorite part because of the selfless, giving nature of sweet, little Jonas. In the end Jonas chooses to leave the community and travel Elsewhere, into the unknown. He knows it's time to leave because Father lets everyone know that Gabriel will be released the next day. He commits three major transgressions. He leaves his house at night, steals his dad's bicycle and food from the community. Jonas rides his bike, with Gabriel, for many days, running out of supplies and growing very weak. The bike breaks and Jonas has to walk in the snow. When Jonas is nearly ready to give in, he finds a sled at the top of a snow-covered hill. He and Gabriel ride this sled towards a community in the distance. This is when Jonas knows he and Gabriel are truly free.

I think, that when Jonas sees this new community and hears the "echo" of music behind him, it was the sound of the music in the past, before his community embraced sameness. But not just the music, everything that makes them different. Everything the community had to leave behind to embrace sameness including color, and emotions. I believe Jonas leaves his community for several different reasons. One reason may have been that he was so angered by what sameness took away from the people, that he couldn't stand to stay in the community. Another reason is because Jonas leaving the community was the only way to save Gabriel's life. A final reason is Jonas knows that if he leaves the community, all the memories he acquired from the Giver would have been spread among the people, forcing them to confront the past and their differences.



"The Tell Heart"

By: Author

Viggo Morgensten

Period 5

8/09/2002

IRA # _____

Box # _____ for Journal entry.

genre: _____

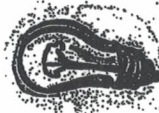
"True!-nervous-very, very dreadfully nervous I had been and am! But why will you say that I am mad?" p248



The narrator is setting up the reason he is telling the story. He wants us to believe he is not crazy.

(1)

"...my thumb slipped upon the fastening, and the old man sprang up in bed." p250



This was the night that the narrator finally saw the eye, when the old man was awakened. It was the night of the murder.

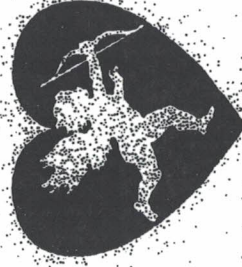
(3)

"...not the old man who vexed me, but the evil eye." p249



He explains that HE LIKED THE OLD MAN, IT WAS HIS EYE HE HATED. He didn't kill him for a week, because the narrator never saw the eye.

"...tear up the planks-here, here-it is the beating of his hideous heart." p256



The narrator gives himself away. He th9inks the police can hear the heartbeat of the old man in the floorboards.

(4)

"Yes, he was stone, stone dead." p253



The narrator killed the old man with his mattress. He made sure he was dead before the narrator hid the body in the floor.

(4)

(5)